ब्लाकों के लिए उत्पादन भागीदारी करारों (पी०एस०सी०) पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे जिसमें पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कुल लगभग 104.28 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर खर्च किए गए हैं ।

(घ) गहन समेकित अन्वेषण कार्यक्रम परियोजनाओं का वित्त-पोषण आंशिक रूप से सोवियत क्रेडिट के जरिए किया गया था और आंशिक भुगतान "व्यापार समझौते" के तहत रुपयों में किया गया था । तीसरे दौर के अधीन सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों के अधीन व्यय का वहन विदेशी कम्पनियों द्वारा किया गया था ।

Supply of Gas to Pipavav Power Station

*236. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 334 given in Rajya Sabha on the 25th November, 1992 and state :

(a) whether all the committed consumers of the HBJ pipeline are lifting gas;

(b) whether there was any commitment with regard to supply of gas to Pipavav Power Station in Gujarat;

(c) whether the need to implement the above commitments would be taken into consideration while finalising the investment plans for development of Tapti fields; and

(d) what percentage of exploited gas is allocated to Gujarat at present ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir, as gas is not available to meet the requirement of all the consumers.

(b) Subject to various factors including the development of the Mid and South Tapti fields, and in the context of some Gandhar gas being supplied to the HBJ pipeline, there was an "in principle" commitment to supply gas for a power station at Pipavav in Gujarat.

(c) The need to fulfil all commitments is taken into consideration while finalising investment plans.

(d) Approximately 22% of all gas allocations in the country have been made to various units located in Gujarat.

Additional National Highways

*237. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV :

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the existing length of National Highways;

(b) the proposed additional length at the end of the 8th Five Year Plan period;

(c) what is the position of Maharashtra in this regard;

(d) whether the Backward Regions would be taken into consideration while constructing the New National Highways; and

(e) if so, what are the projects for the conversion of State Highways into National Highways received from Maharashtra and by when these projects are likely to be approved and implemented.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (e) Existing length of National Highways in the country is 33,689 Km. Various State Governments have forwarded a number of proposals for declaration of new National Highways during the 8th Plan. This includes 11 proposals aggregating to 4679 Km. received from Govt. of Maharashtra. However, due to limited financial allocation for National Highways in the 8th Plan, it is difficult at this stage to declare new National Highways in different States including Maharashtra. The matter will be re-examined at the time of mid-term review of the 8th Plan in case allocation for National Highways is increased. Declaration of new National Highway is done keeping in view the traffic/economic requirements of the country as a whole

and not on the basis of any considerations of area, State, region or population.

Hiring of Oil Tankers from Private Companies

*238. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to hire oil tankers from the private sector shipping companies to replace the ageing fleet of oil tankers with the Shipping Corporation of India and also to issue licences for the acquisition of oil tankers to private companies;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the terms and conditions if any, laid down by Government in this regard; and

(c) to what extent the Shipping Corporation of India is likely to be benefited as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government do not propose to hire oil tankers from Private Sector Shipping Companies. However, a few private shipping companies have been issued licences for acquisition of crude oil tankers with the option to enter into suitable arrangements with the Shipping Corporation of India. The arrangement would be that the ship acquired by the company would be given to Shipping Corporation of India on charter-cum-demise basis and this can be treated as Shipping Corporation of India vessel for all intents and purposes. Such vessels can then be deployed with Oil Co-ordination Committee.

(c) Due to financial and some procedural constraints, Shipping Corporation of India has not been able to acquire oil tankers in time. The acquisition of vessels through bare boat charter-cum-demise method would enable the Shipping Corporation of India to augment its tanker fleet for this purpose.

Family Planning Congress and IPPF Meet

*239. SHRI N. E. BALARAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the recently held Family Planning Congress and IPPF Meet at New Delhi was co-sponsored by Population Council, USA;

(b) whether Government are aware that the same Council issues trade marks of the manufacture of Norplants (the controversial hormonal contraceptive); and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Population Council, USA, used this Meet to promote their own brand i.e. Norplant ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Population Council hold patent rights for NORPLANT.

(c) No, Sir.

लखनऊ-उन्नाव रेल लाइन का दोहरीकरण

240 **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय**

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) लखनऊ-उन्नाव रेल लाइन के दोहरीकरण और मीटर गेज लाइन के बड़ी लाइन में रूपान्तरण का कार्य तथा कानपुर से अनवरगंज तक बड़ी लाइन के विस्तार तथा गंगा नदी पर रेलवे पुल के निर्माण से संबंधित कार्य किस चरण में है ; और

(ख) उक्त कार्य को कब तक पूरा किए जाने की संभावना है?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफर शरीफ) :

(क) लखनऊ–उन्नाव खण्ड पर दोहरी लाइन बिछाने तथा गंगा पुल के सुदृढ़ीकरण का कार्य काफी प्रगति पर है, कानपुर सेंट्रल–कानपुर अनवरगंज खण्ड के